

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

Claims 87-173 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-86 have been cancelled and claims 87-173 have been added.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

**Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.**

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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CG/cb:rem  
2936-0146P  
Attachments

(Rev. 12/19/01)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, please delete the third paragraph beginning on line 18 and replace with the following:

--To achieve the above objects, according to the present invention, a wastewater treatment agent [is produced by mixing a first flocculant that is a high-molecular-weight substance and a second flocculant that is a low-molecular-weight substance, and acts by flocculating the surfactant components present in wastewater] flocculates a surfactant component present in wastewater with a primary flocculant composed of a high-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant or a mixture of a high-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant and a low-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant and makes the resulting flocks grow larger with a secondary flocculant composed of a high-molecular-weight organic flocculant.--

Page 5, please delete the 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph beginning on line 6 and replace with the following new paragraph:

According to the present invention, a polluted water purifier for collecting a pollutant present in polluted water by flocculating the pollutant with a flocculant, or a washing machine incorporating

such a purifier, is provided with: a polluted water tank for storing the polluted water, a first mixer for mixing the polluted water with [the] a primary flocculant to produce primary flocks; a second mixer for mixing the polluted water containing the primary flocks with [the] a secondary flocculant and air to produce secondary flocks; an agitator for agitating the polluted water containing the flocculant and the air so as to make [the primary flocks hold bubbles and thereby produce secondary flocks] the secondary flocks grow larger; and a separator for separating the secondary flocks thus grown. [Here, the polluted water tank, the first mixer, the second mixer, the agitator, separator are coupled in this order to form a circulation path that leads back to the polluted water tank.]

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-86 have been canceled.

Claims 87-173 have been added.